



Sumi Budhi and Sugi

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Sumi Budhi was woken up every morning
by Sugi. As roosters crowed outside

KOOKROOKOO

Sugi honked into a sleeping Sumi Budhi's
ear indoors.

KYUK KYUKKYUK KYUK



"Your best friend wakes you up early every morning," said Moso Hadam, Sumi Budhi's husband.

"Yes, it's good to wake up early," Sumi Budhi replied.

She opened the door and began sweeping the racha, the courtyard.



Swish swish, went Sumi Budhi's broom.
Sugi trailed after her, bobbing her neck.
Sugi picked out ants and worms for breakfast.
From the roof, Bhutu the naughty cat,
watched Sugi eat.

KWAK KWAKKWAK KWAK

GOBBLE GOBBLE

SWISH SWISH

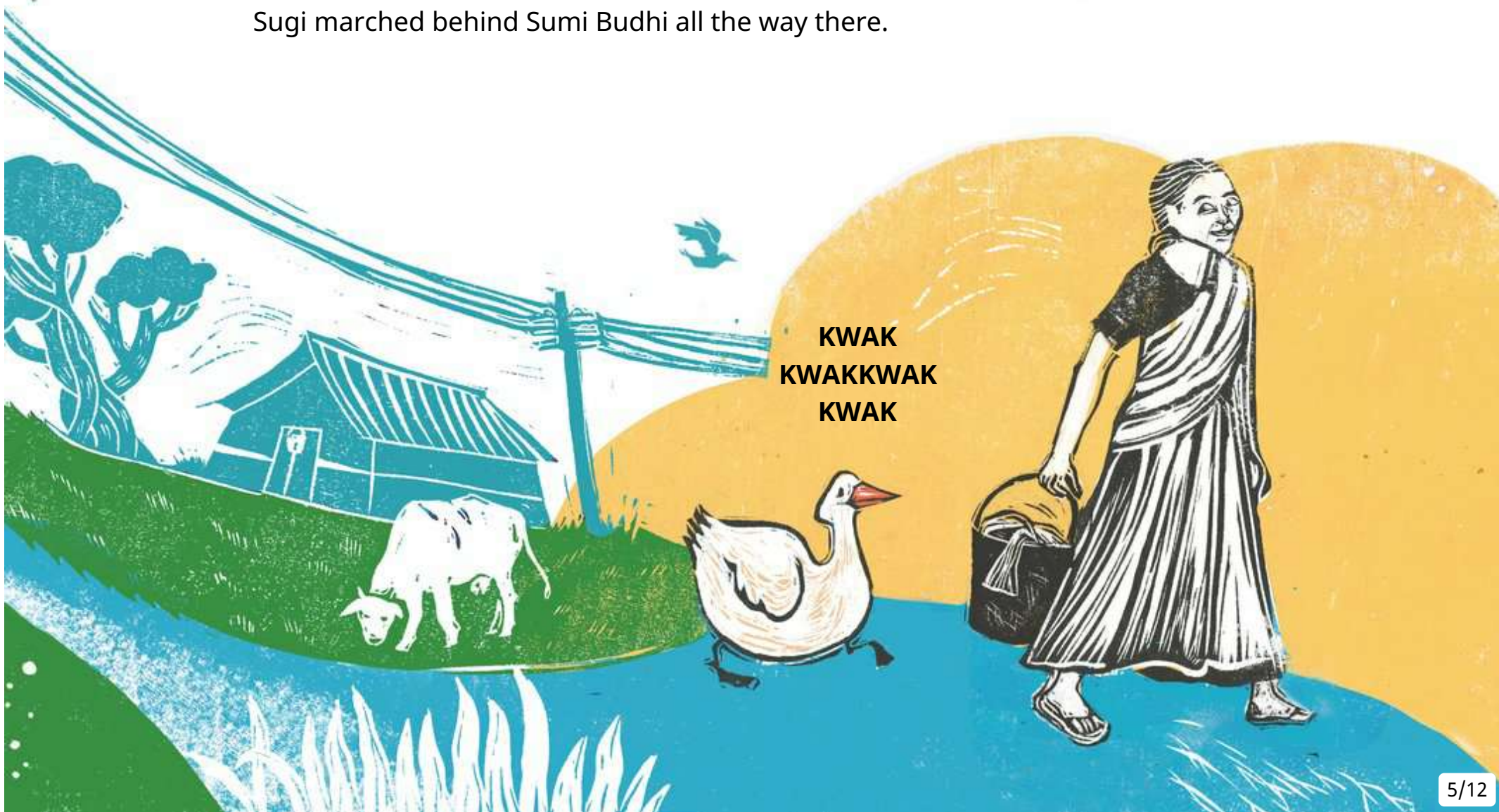


After sweeping the house, Sumi Budhi picked up a pile of clothes lying in a corner.

"I need to buy soap to wash these clothes," she said to herself.

There was a tiny grocery shop at the end of the village.

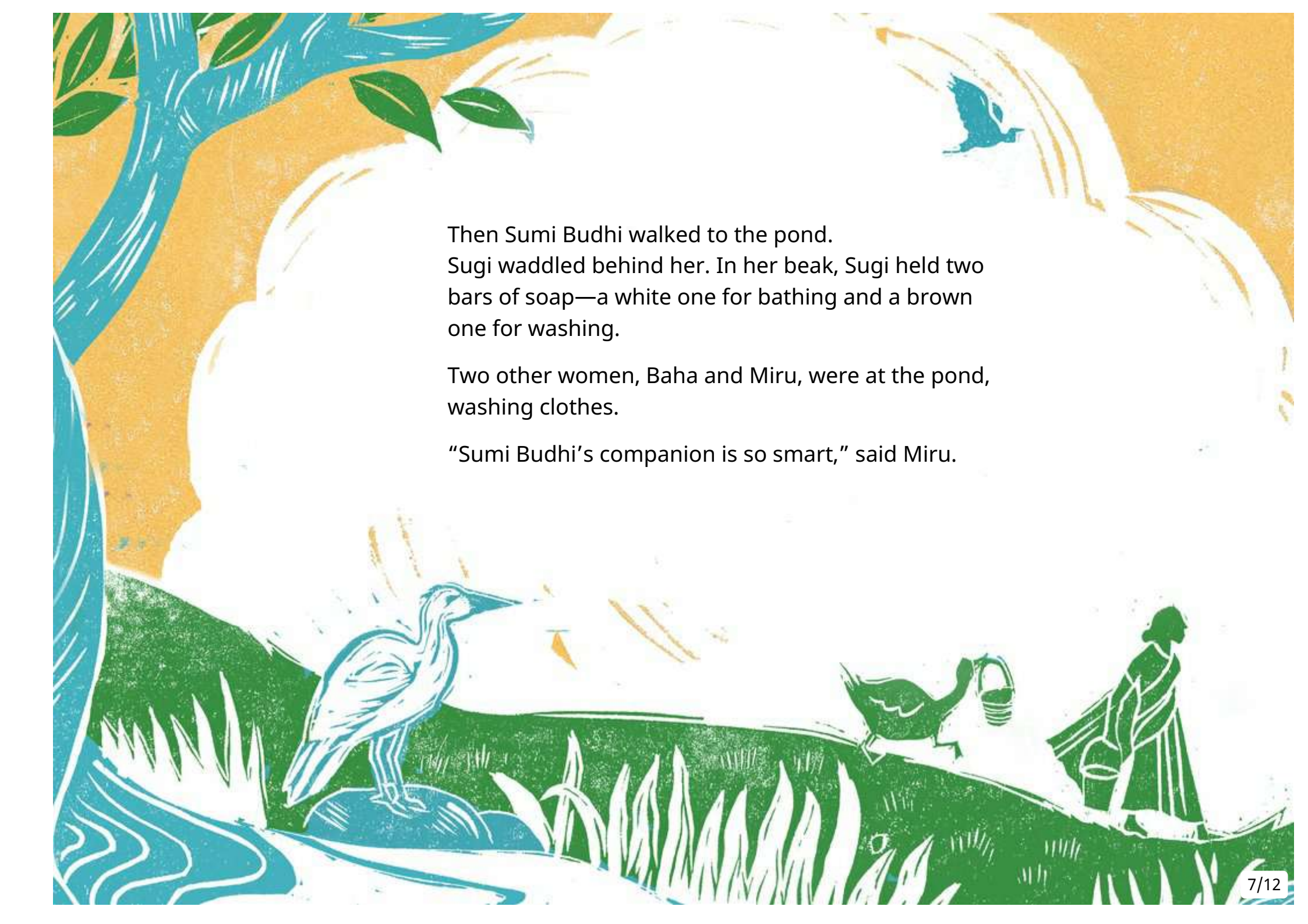
Sugi marched behind Sumi Budhi all the way there.



KWAK
KWAKKWAK
KWAK

"Johar," said Sawna, the shopkeeper,
greeting Sumi Budhi.
"Johar," said Sumi Budhi.
"How is your companion today?" he asked.
"Good," Sumi Budhi smiled. "As always,
she woke me up this morning."





Then Sumi Budhi walked to the pond.
Sugi waddled behind her. In her beak, Sugi held two
bars of soap—a white one for bathing and a brown
one for washing.

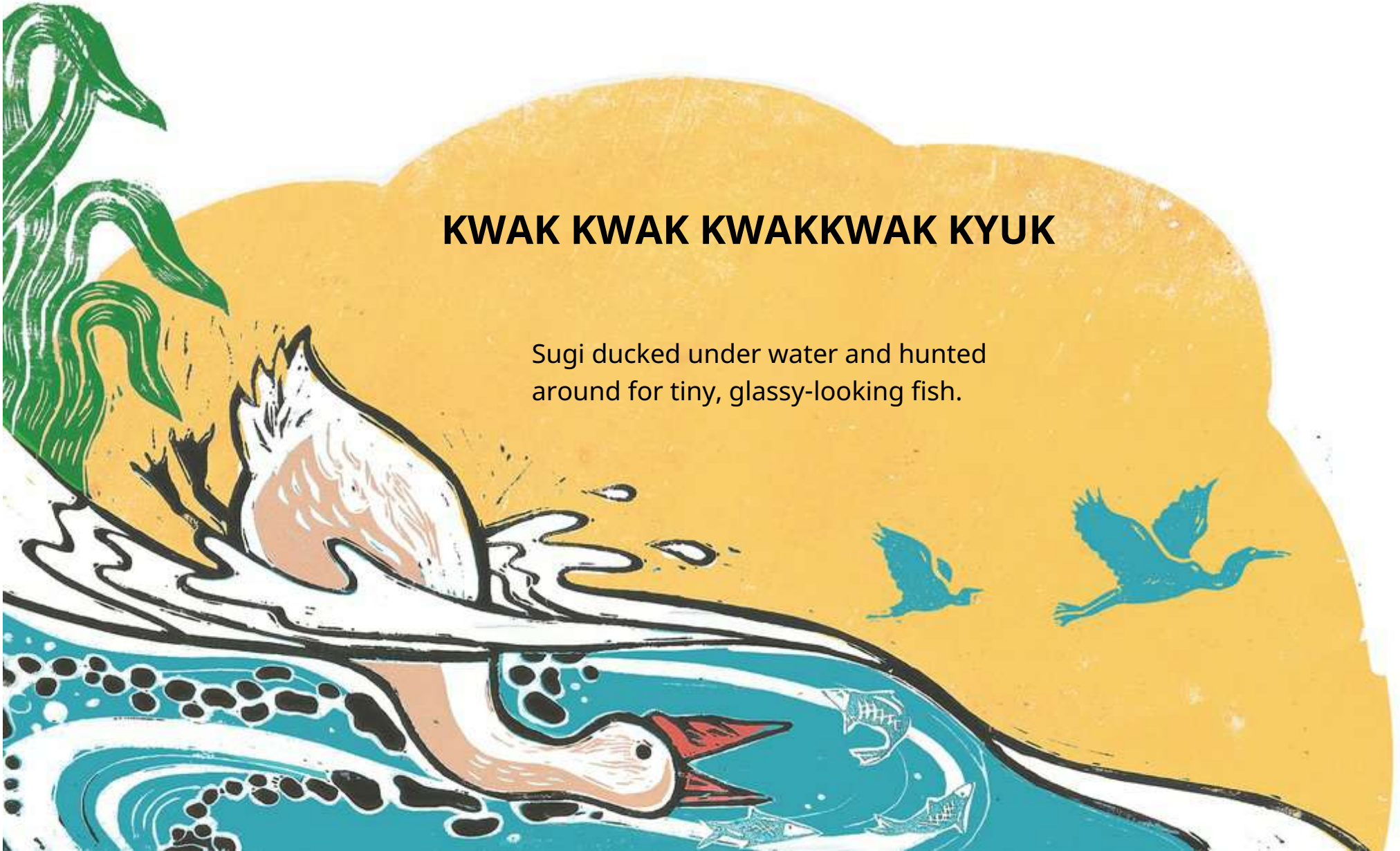
Two other women, Baha and Miru, were at the pond,
washing clothes.

“Sumi Budhi’s companion is so smart,” said Miru.

As Sumi Budhi washed clothes,
Sugi swam in the pond.
Every few minutes, she let out a happy cry.

KWAK KWAK KWAKKWAK KYUK

Sugi ducked under water and hunted
around for tiny, glassy-looking fish.



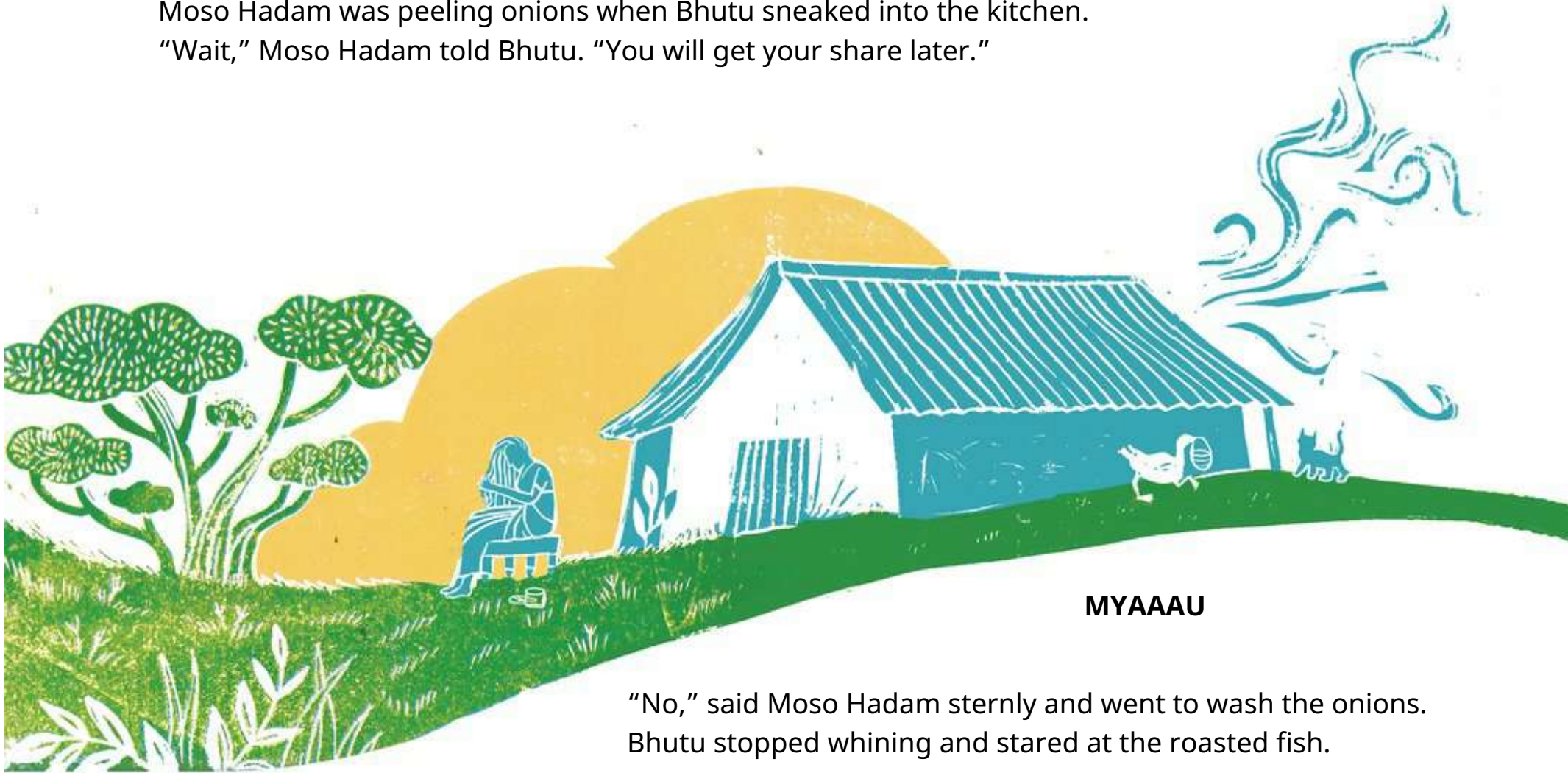
At home, Moso Hadam roasted fish, and cooked rice and pui leaves.

The fish smelt delicious.

"I can't wait to eat," Sumi Budhi said as she oiled her hair.

Moso Hadam was peeling onions when Bhutu sneaked into the kitchen.

"Wait," Moso Hadam told Bhutu. "You will get your share later."



"No," said Moso Hadam sternly and went to wash the onions.
Bhutu stopped whining and stared at the roasted fish.

Seeing no one around, Bhutu moved stealthily towards the plates and was just about to grab the head of a roasted fish when—

TUBUKKK

Sugi pecked Bhutu, first on the tail and then on the head.

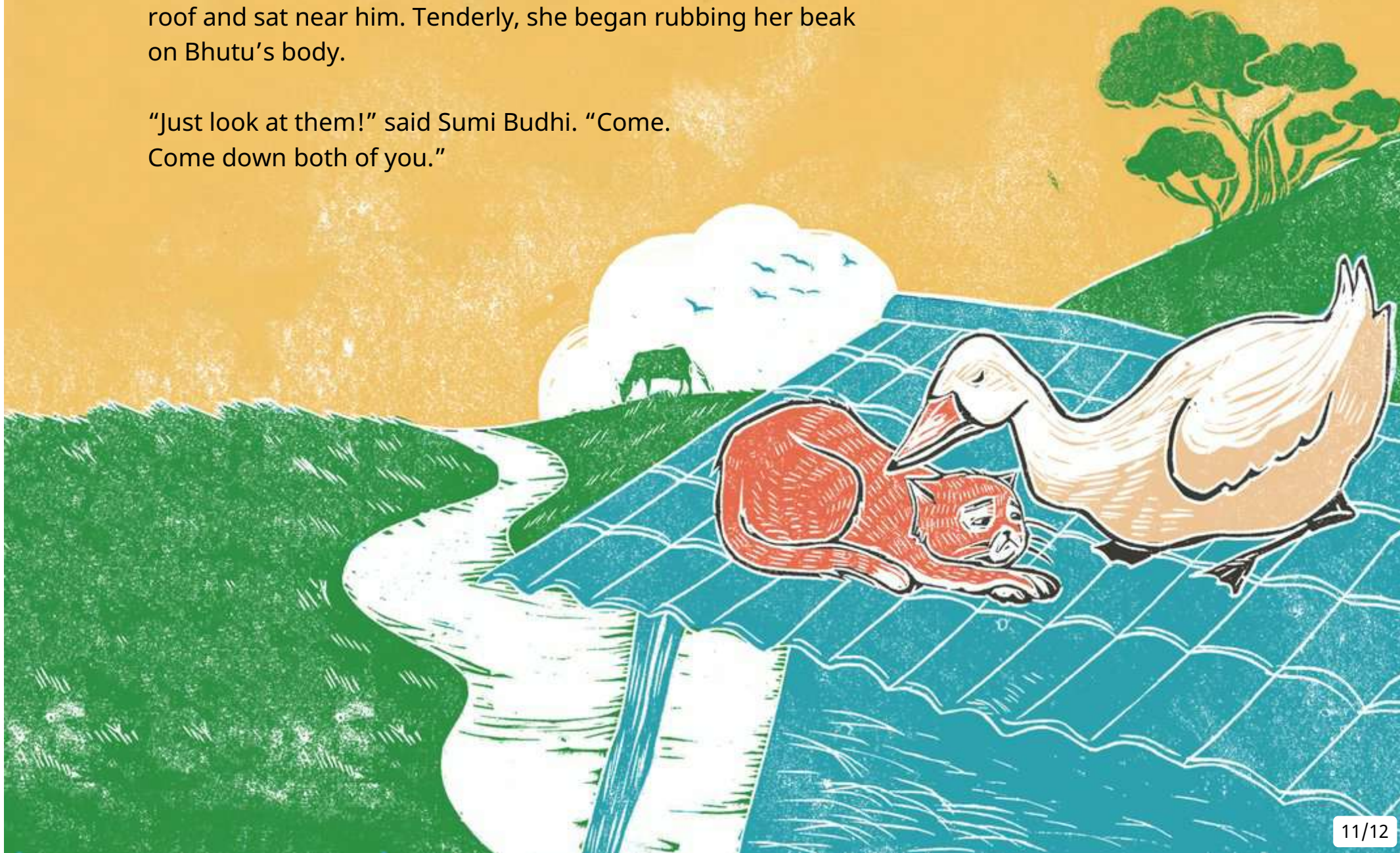
Tubuktubuktubuk



Moso Hadam rushed to the kitchen.
“Dhurr... pusi!” he shouted at Bhutu.
“Get lost, you cat!”

Bhutu ran out the kitchen and on to the roof. He looked sad. Seeing Bhutu sad, Sugi felt sad too. She flapped up to the roof and sat near him. Tenderly, she began rubbing her beak on Bhutu's body.

"Just look at them!" said Sumi Budhi. "Come. Come down both of you."



"Should we eat?" Moso Hadam asked Sugi and Bhutu.
Sumi Budhi and Moso Hadam shared a piece of fish with Bhutu.
And Sugi pecked on rice and pui leaves.



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Sumi Budhi and Sugi (English)

Every morning Sugi nudges Sumi Budhi awake at daybreak. They spend every waking moment together. Sugi is a goose and Sumi Budhi's friend. This slice-of-life story looks at the relationships between humans and animals.

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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